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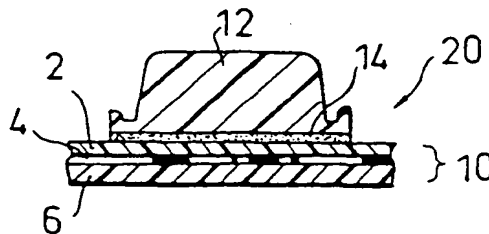
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(54) Key top element, push button switch element and method for manufacturing same

(57) A key top element (20) capable of being manufactured while permitting a design of a display section thereof to be readily modified and corrected, accommodating a variety of data for design formation, and capable of exhibiting increased design properties. The key top element (20) includes a printed sheet (10) constituted by a substrate sheet member (2), an on-demand printed layer (4) and a white- or silver-colored layer (6),

as well as transparent key top members (12) fixedly bonded to the printed sheet (10). The on-demand printed layer (4) is printed in the form of a symbol or the like on the substrate sheet member (2) using an on-demand printing machine. A push button switch element (40) is also disclosed which includes such a key top element (32) and a light-permeable rubber cover base (38) bonded to the key top element (32).

FIG. 2A



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H01H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>28 August 2000</b>	Examiner <b>Libberecht, L</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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